

BENJAMIN A. COREY

Respectfully referred
for attention and
appropriate handling.

December 7, 1961

Ralph A. Dungan
Special Assistant to the President

Mr. John F Kennedy
President of the United States
The White House
Washington, D.C.

Dear President Kennedy:

I have been aroused by affairs in Washington and around the world to write my first letter to Washington.

Where is our Central Intelligence Agency during these fateful days of the Cold War? One is lead to believe it is so infiltrated by Communists that it does the job for the enemy in the Cold War! As we cheer the disposal of one hated dictator after another, we end up red-faced finding that we have bolstered another Communist pawn. Why? Will it happen again in the Dominican Republic? If this should happen, the C.I.A. should be tried for TREASON! Something is wrong! Is it not possible for the President of the United States, president of the most powerful nation in the world, to know what is going on in all parts of the globe, and not just depend on reporters and foreign service personnel who get their information second hand? And why should not the nation as a whole know the true facts?

Along with our C.I.A., I feel very shamed-face about our foreign service. Why don't we have a Foreign Service Academy where we can train professional personnel for our embassies and legations where the Cold War is fought, as we train our professional military men who fight the real wars?

I feel that the Peace Corps is a wonderful start towards understanding and helping underdeveloped countries, but wouldn't it be possible to augment this corps with a drafted corps of men and women who would serve in our embassies and legations in every capacity from chauffeurs to cooks, and not depend on questionable foreign employees about who we know nothing? The Russians in this country never hire Americans for a job no matter how lowly. If I had not been able to serve in the Armed Service of our country during World War II I would have been very happy to serve in a corps of civilians wherever they would have been needed. Morale-wise it would help our country also, as most young people want to serve their country in one way or another.

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The above mentioned questions and suggestions are not meant as a personal criticism of you or your office, but as a thought of just another American.

Yours very truly,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Benjamin A. Corey".

Benjamin A. Corey

SECRET 62-473

January 12, 1962

Dear Mr. Corey:

The President has asked me to thank you for your letter. He appreciates your interest in writing to him and submitting your views and suggestions.

Sincerely,

Ralph A. Dungan
Special Assistant
to the President

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Mr. Benjamin A. Corey

